

The Punta Gorda Herald

PUNTA GORDA — In Tropical Southwest Florida, a Seaport on the Famous Charlotte Harbor — a Town that is Known for its Natural Attractions and the Hospitality of a Cosmopolitan Citizenship

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A MILLION YEARS AGO IN FLORIDA

WHAT THE SOIL WAS LIKE

Interesting Conclusion Reached From Fossil Remains Recently Discovered in the Western Part of State

Washington. — An interesting discovery of what the soil of Florida was something like a million years ago has just been made public by the United States Geological Survey and those who like to dig into the relics of the past will no doubt be pleased to know what the Government is doing. This statement is as follows:

"A change of climate is supposed to account for the shrinkage of Alaska glaciers, for the disappearance of those clever stone masons whose handiwork is found in the midst of Mexican jungles, and for many other things. Great changes of climate undoubtedly have taken place in different parts of the world. Impressions of fossil plants are found in the Arctic regions and fossils found in the tropics. Somewhere prove that temperature and moisture in some regions have been very different in other times. The present vegetation in Northwestern Florida represents a temperate flora that has received additions from the tropics. A few years ago a man digging in a clay bank on Apalachicola River, west of Tallahassee found fossil plants which proved that in tertiary geological time, some millions of years ago, the flora was distinctly tropical and was gradually becoming invaded by members of a temperate flora as a result of a change in climate. He found fossil remains of such trees as the breadfruit, camphor and satinwood, and with them remains of the elm and buckthorn. By far the most abundant fossil was the palm, whole layers of which were found fossilized in sand. This discovery suggests that in tertiary time, near the coast and along sluggish rivers, only in a few feet above sea level, there were in that region extensive palmetto swamps or brakes.

"The subtropical or warm temperate climate in which these palms and breadfruit lived in Western Florida was cooler than that of the preceding period, when, in the area that now is land, a shallow tropical sea swarmed with shellfish.

"These fossil plants which point to a former more tropical climate, were found at Alum Bluff, on Apalachicola River, a most interesting spot to the student of fossil plants because of its almost unique flora, most of the species so far found being new; to the botanist for the living relics of former floras, and the physiographer because of the striking contrast in topography between the east and west banks of the river." — P. H. McGowan.

Synopsis of the Game Law

The following furnished the Star by Judge Wm. E. Smith will be of interest to all sportsmen:

The title to all wild birds and game is vested in the various counties of the state. The following only are game birds: Swan, geese, brant, ducks, rail, mud hens, Gallinules, shore birds, plovers, surf birds, snipe, woodcocks, sand pipers, tattlers, curlews, turkeys, grouse, pheasants, quail and turtle doves.

It is a \$50 fine to catch, kill, ship or to have in possession any game bird, plumage, skin, eggs or nests thereof, except as provided by law.

Open season November 20th to March 20th following, for deer, wild turkey, quail, doves, swan, geese, brant, rails, coots, sand pipers, curlews, snipe, ducks and plovers; Nov. 20th to Dec. 20th following, for pheasants; and October 1st to March 1st following for squirrels. Unlawful to kill squirrels in any public or private park at any time.

It is a \$25 fine to capture, kill or injure any game bird or animal by pitfall, deadfall, scaffold, cage,

snare, net, salt-lick, blind pen, baited hook, baited field, drugs, poison, chemicals, explosives, or similar device.

It is a \$25 fine to catch, hunt or kill any game bird or animal between dark and daylight the following day.

It is a \$25 fine to kill more than one deer, two turkeys, twenty quail or twenty-five birds of any species in any one day. It is a \$500 fine to kill more than three deer, ten turkeys or three hundred of any other game bird species in any one open season.

It is a \$25 fine to barter, sell or offer for sale any game bird or animal.

It is a \$100 fine to hunt outside of your voting precinct without a license; a \$25 fine to change or alter a license.

It is a \$25 fine to transport within or without this state any game without a proper license. It is a \$100 fine for any common carrier to receive such game for transportation.

The witnesses furnishing evidence to convict for any violation of the game laws shall have half of the fine imposed.

Persons residing in the state twelve months and the county six months, on payment of \$1 to the county judge, receive a "resident county license;" a "non-resident county license;" \$3, and a "non-resident hunter's license" for \$15. No license good except in county issued. No license required of resident Confederate Veterans.

County judge to have 25c, 50c, and \$1 respectively, for each license issued; balance goes to county school fund.

The sheriff is ex-officio county game warden, and may appoint deputies in each election precinct.

All grades of licenses shall be of different color, contain a synopsis of the game law printed on the back, and shall be good only for the open season or fraction thereof immediately following their issue. — Ocala Star.

Notwithstanding the high price of white paper, many of the papers of the state continue to furnish liberal space to the boosting of their respective cities and communities. Wonder if the people appreciate this? Wonder if many of the subscribers realize that the price paid by them on subscription will not pay often for the paper that is delivered at their doors, to say nothing of ink, labor, wear and tear on machinery, investment, etc. Yet they boost you and yours all the same. — Arcadia News.

We would like to endorse the efforts that are being sent out to the effect that there is a heavy crop of citrus fruit this year. As a matter of fact, our information and observation leads us to believe that there is not much more than fifty per cent. of an average crop. This may not be a bad thing for the grower, who may get just as much money if he had more boxes; but he should not turn loose his fruit on such reports as we have seen published. — Lakeland Telegram.

Coast Line Building South

Jacksonville, Sept. 27. — The extension of the Atlantic Coast Line Railway from Sebring to Immokalee, a distance of 85 miles, has already begun and approximately 25 miles of the roadbed has been graded and five miles of rail laid south of Sebring. This extension is called the Scenic Highway because of the great beauty of this particular section through which it runs.

The road from Sebring south goes through DeSoto City, Khulman, Silver Lake section, Buck Lake, Hicoria, Venus, Palmdale, Hall City, between LaBell and Ft. Thompson, terminating at Immokalee, Lee county. The line also includes a branch line running over to Morehaven, located at the southern end of lake Okeechobee.

Orlando is waging a war against the English sparrow, claiming the little pests drive away song and insect-destroying birds. A reward is offered for their extermination. — Lakeland News — Kill 'em.

Study of Biography and Human Character an Instructive One

By EDWARD HOWARD GRIGGS, Lecturer and Author, at Chautauqua

THE most interesting of all subjects of study is human life, and the most instructive of all problems are those concerning the development of personality and bringing to active realization the powers of individual character. The science dealing with personal life should be a most absorbing subject. The literature of autobiography has all the charm of the novel with the added interest that the story is true.

The student's temptation is to read simply to enjoy the fascinating material as one usually reads good fiction. There is, of course, considerable value even in such reading, but the fruit of the work can be multiplied many times by active study.

IN EACH TEXT THE STUDENT SHOULD DISCOVER THE CENTRAL PROBLEM AND CLASSIFY THE SUBORDINATE ONES IN RELATION THERETO.

He should then proceed to form a clear view of the type of personality presented and the causes and conditions of its development. Next, the whole achievement of the life, subjective and objective, should be estimated.

ONE'S OWN LIFE SHOULD BE USED CONSTANTLY AS THE KEY WITH WHICH TO INTERPRET THE VARIOUS CHARACTERS AND TYPES EXPERIENCED.

END OF THE BANK ROBBERS

One is Killed, Another is in Jail Badly Wounded, the Third is Drowned and the Fourth Surrenders

Intense interest is felt in Punta Gorda in the case of the men who robbed the bank at Homestead forty miles south of Miami of \$6,500.00 and a day or two later killed three of the sheriff's posse pursuing them. This interest arises from the fact that the Rice brothers are well known here, having lived here for some years, and it is only about two months ago that Frank Rice, after having lived here with his wife for about a year, separated from her and left for the towns around Lake Okeechobee. Alderman, one of the robbers, is also known by some of our citizens. Because of this great interest, The Herald gives much space to the story of the robbers.

According to Frank Rice, after the four robbers succeeded in eluding on Key Largo the terrified posse of Sheriff Hardie of Dade county, they made their way to Key West, where they spent a day or two, and then sailed up to one of the Ten Thousand Islands in Chokoluskee bay. On Wednesday of last week, they sent Leland Rice alone in a boat to Chokoluskee to secure supplies. He went to the home of M. D. Johnson whom he knew, gave him \$25 and asked him to go to the store and get supplies for him. This, Johnson did, and brought them to Leland, who took the packages under his arms and started to his boat.

Meantime, W. Rollo Wiggins, who lived there, discovered Rice's presence and tried to get help to aid in his capture. Every one refused, until he met Fred Hurst, a fisherman, who agreed to assist. The two hastened to the beach and overtook Leland Rice on his way to the boat. When within fifteen feet of him, Wiggins leveled his Winchester shotgun at Rice and commanded him to throw up his hands. Instead of obeying, Rice reached for his pistol, when Wiggins fired, the entire charge from his gun passing clear through Rice's body and killing him instantly.

Then Wiggins and Hurst left, the former going to a telephone station to notify Sheriff Tippins at Fort Myers and the latter going to a near-by fishing dock, where he boarded the R. W. Powell, a power boat belonging to the West Coast Fish Company of Punta Gorda and commanded by Capt. Henry Quednau. The boat arrived on the scene shortly after Leland Rice had been killed, and Capt. Quednau and his crew set about having the man buried. They experienced much difficulty in this undertaking, as not one of the residents, all of whom seemed to be panic-stricken, wished to have anything to do with the matter. Finally, however, they succeeded in having a coffin made and, on Thursday morning, buried the dead as decently as they could

in the cemetery on Chokoluskee island. Previously, however, by request of his crew and in their presence, Capt. Quednau searched the body and recovered from it cash amounting to \$1,021.10, which he afterward turned over to Sheriff Tippins of Lee county.

Capt. Quednau tried to get some of the residents to take charge of the money, but they all refused. He announced his willingness to deliver it to any one who would become responsible for it—and some one may have told this to Frank Rice, and this information may have been the cause that led him to go to the Powell and board her that morning.

While searching Rice's body, Capt. Quednau observed on a left-hand finger a diamond ring which he valued at \$125.00. The finger was so swollen that he did not try to remove the ring, and so it went into the grave with Rice. The ring is said to belong to a girl in Miami, with whom Rice was infatuated.

As the Powell, Thursday morning, was preparing to leave for Punta Gorda, Frank Rice was observed approaching in a boat. He came up to the Powell, clambered over the side and went straight to the pilot house, in which Fred Hurst was standing. Hurst evidently believed that Rice was coming to kill him for the part taken in killing Leland. He waited until Rice was within two or three feet and then shot him with a 38-calibre revolver. The ball entered on the right side just below the shoulder blade, passed through and lodged in his left side. Rice fell overboard and was hauled out by the crew of the Powell and laid on the deck. He was suffering great pain and begged his crew to get him to a doctor as quickly as possible. Meantime, he called Hurst to him and said, "I've nothing against you. Shake hands," and they shook hands.

Rice was bare-footed and bare-headed and had neither weapon nor money on his person. The Powell strated with him to Marco, but, on the way, met Sheriff Tippins, who was in a power boat with a posse, and delivered him and also the money to the sheriff, who forthwith sent him to Ft. Myers where he is now in jail being nursed by his married sister from Arcadia.

Since being placed in the Fort Myers jail, Frank Rice has made many statements about his connection with the bank robbery at Homestead and the murder of the three possemen at the Everglade water station on the East Coast. He denies that he took an active part in either of these outrages, saying that his three companions were solely responsible. He alleges that after his brother Leland failed to return to their camp on that fatal Wednesday evening, he was robbed by Tucker and Alderman and driven from the island

and that he had gone to Chokoluskee to give himself up to justice. Tucker Drowns, Alderman Surrenders

When Leland Rice on Wednesday afternoon went in a boat to M. B. Johnson's house at Chokoluskee to get supplies, Hugh Alderman and Jim Tucker were left on the island without a boat. When Rice failed to return, on Thursday they tried to wade and swim to the mainland. Both were very weak and exhausted from hunger and exposure. Tucker bogged in the muddy bottom and drowned, his companion being unable to help him.

Alderman succeeded in crossing over and on Saturday night went to the home of the Lopez brothers, near the Turner place, and voluntarily surrendered to them. He was unarmed. The brothers took him to Fort Myers Sunday night and turned him over to the sheriff.

A Seminole Indian named Charlie Tiger Tail found Tucker's body, Saturday afternoon, floating in the southeast end of Chokoluskee bay. It was badly decomposed. No money was found on it. It is said that Tucker carried his money in his hat and that his hat could not be found.

It is understood that some money was recovered from Alderman, but the amount is not given. He and Frank Rice, if the latter lives, will be tried in Miami on charges of bank robbery and murder. With their court trial finished, the exciting story of their deeds will end.

Previously to the bank robbery at Homestead, the four bandits had committed many offences against the law. The Rice boys were under charges of assault with intent to murder committed at Okeechobee City, of minor robberies at divers times and places.

The sheriff of St. Lucie county held warrants against them for various misdeeds. Their two associates, Tucker and Alderman, were also under charges of various offences committed in different localities.

The breaking up of this band of bad men gives a feeling of relief to many people throughout the territory of their depredations, which comprises this entire southern group of counties, St. Lucie, Dade, Lee and DeSoto, and possibly Broward and Monroe.

Rewards to be Paid

Gov. Trammell offered a reward of \$150.00 for each bandit captured and convicted, but this does not seem to apply to the dead ones. The guarantee company that insured the cash in the Homestead bank also offered a liberal reward, amount unknown to this scribe, for the capture and conviction of the bandits and also ten per cent. of all the money recovered.

It appears that Rollo Wiggins is entitled to \$150.00 for the killing of Leland Rice; that Capt. Henry Quednau should have \$150.00 for delivering Frank Rice to the sheriff of Lee county and an additional \$100.00 of the money recovered from the body of Leland Rice, and that the Lopez brothers should have \$150.00 for the capture of Alderman as well as ten per cent. of the money taken from him.

State Committee to Meet

Tampa, Sept. 27. — Chairman Raney has called a meeting of the Democratic executive committee at Jacksonville on Oct. 7 to consider measures to aid in the election of the Democratic nominees. He declared in a statement that the Republicans are encouraged by the Democratic factional fight and are making a genuine effort to become a factor in Florida politics.

A Hernando county boy raised a little over 100 bushels of corn to the acre this season. Iowa, Illinois and Kansas had best look to their laurels as corn growing states, or Florida will wrest the pennant from them. — Lakeland Telegram.

Do you intend to plant a home garden this fall? The home garden is the best remedy for big grocery bills and nobody knows how many doctor's bills it saves. It also prevents the accumulation of tin cans in the fence corners.

NEW SITUATION IN THE BALKANS

CENTRAL POWERS WORSTED

Russians and Teutons Divide Honors in Galicia — Little News From Macedonia — Another Zeppelin Raid

London, Eng. — The Rumanians have invaded Bulgaria.

On the Danube between the fortified towns of Rustchuk and Turtukai, where the river begins its bend northwestward, leaving Bulgarian territory and separating Rumaia proper from Dobruja, the troops have made their way to the southern bank of the stream.

Just how many men were there across the river is not disclosed in either the Rumanian or German official communications, but the strategic value of the maneuver seemingly is two-fold.

Ninety miles eastward from Turtukai, which lies at the western extremity of Southern Dobruja is Varar, Bulgaria's chief seaport on the Black Sea. If sufficient men have crossed the river and are sent along the Dobruja-Bulgarian frontier toward Varna, not alone would the seaport be in danger, but the move would constitute a serious menace toward the isolation of the German-Bulgarian and Turkish forces operating against the Rumanians to the north.

Simultaneously with the announcement of the crossing of the Danube, comes a report from Bucharest that a fresh attack along the entire front of Dobruja has resulted in the defeat of the center and right flanks of the troops of the Central Powers. In Transylvania the Rumanians on both sides of the great Kuke I River have advanced against the Teutonic Allies, while westward in the vicinity of Orsova, and near Pteroseny, the Austro-Hungarians have captured positions from the Rumanians.

Honors Divided in Galicia

The fighting in Galicia, with Lemberg the stake, has resulted in successes for the Teutonic Allies north-west of the Galician capitol, and for the Russians in the south-east. On the Brody-Zlochoff road the Teutons recaptured the ground lost last Saturday, according to both Berlin and Vienna, and made prisoner 2,306 Russians, while in the Narayuvka, and Zlota-Lipa sectors, the Russians repulsed vicious attacks of the Teutons, inflicting heavy casualties, and capturing 1,600 men. In the Lutske region of Volhynia, northwest of Svinitsky, a Russian attack was repulsed.

Little additional news of the fighting on the Macedonian front has come to hand. The troops of both sides along the front apparently are continuing their attacks and counter-attacks, with no notable successes for either.

Aside from bombardments, which are especially severe on the Carso plateau, little fighting is taking place on the Austro-Italian front.

"One person was killed and one injured and slight material damage resulted from the Zeppelin raid over East England Sunday night. The entire crew of the Zeppelin which was brought down in flames, near London, perished.

On the front in France the Germans at Eaucourt L'Abbaye, in fierce fighting regained a footing in some of the buildings of that town, but west of Guedecourt and east of Courcellette, the British improved their positions.

On the part of the line held by the French the men of General Foch, made progress east of Bouchavesnes, and repulsed an attack south of the Somme, in the region of Vermandevillers. Inclement weather again has impeded the operations in the German region.

Oak is the most valuable wood for carving, on account of its durability and toughness, without being too hard. Chestnut, American walnut, mahogany and teak are also desirable, while for fine work Italian walnut, lime, sycamore, apple, pear or plum are generally chosen.